B8 cancel sites made along a single longitudinal position of the urethra. Depots 0.5 cm distally from the neck of the bladder were made.

In accordance with 37 C.F.R. § 1.121(b), also enclosed, in Appendix A, is a version of the above replacement paragraphs marked-up to show all the changes relative to the deleted paragraphs. The specification has been amended to correct minor informalities and typographical errors.

In the Claims:

Please amend claims 1-9, 11-14, and 16-19, and add claims 20-47.

1. (Amended) A bio-stable hydrogel comprising the combination of acrylamide and methylene bis-acrylamide in amounts to provide about 0.5 to 25% by weight polyacrylamide, based on the total weight of the hydrogel wherein said biostable hydrogel is in a form suitable for the treatment of incontinence and vesicouretal reflux and is substantially free of monomeric units.

2. (Amended) The hydrogel according to claim 1, wherein said combination of acrylamide and methylene bis-acrylamide is obtained by combining the acrylamide and the methylene bis-acrylamide in a molar ratio of 150:1 to 1000:1.

B9 3. (Amended) The hydrogel according to claim 1, comprising less than 15% by weight polyacrylamide, based on the total weight of the hydrogel.

4. (Amended) The hydrogel according to claim 1, comprising at least 1% by weight polyacrylamide, based on the total weight of the hydrogel.

5. (Amended) The hydrogel according to claim 1, having a complex viscosity of about 2 to 40 Pas.

6. (Amended) The hydrogel according to claim 1, for use in the treatment of incontinence.

7. (Amended) The hydrogel according to claim 42, further comprising at least 75% by weight pyrogen-free water or saline solution.

8. (Amended) The hydrogel according to claim 7 comprising at least 80% by weight pyrogen-free water or saline solution.

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9. (Amended) A method of treating incontinence or vesicouretal reflux comprising administering a hydrogel to a mammal, said hydrogel comprising 0.5 to 25% by weight polyacrylamide, based on the total weight of the hydrogel and is substantially free of monomeric units.

11. (Amended) The method according to claim 9, wherein the hydrogel comprises less than 15% by weight polyacrylamide, based on the total weight of the hydrogel.

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12. (Amended) The method according to claim 11, wherein the hydrogel comprises at least 1% by weight polyacrylamide, based on the total weight of the hydrogel.

13. (Amended) The method according to claim 9, wherein the hydrogel has a complex viscosity of about 2 to 40 Pas.

14. (Amended) The method according to claim 9, wherein the hydrogel comprises at least 80% by weight pyrogen-free water or saline solution.

16. (Amended) The method according to claim 15, wherein the injecting of the hydrogel comprises injections which include

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injections at positions 10, 2, and 6 o'clock of the cross-sectional axis of the urethra for the treatment of urinary incontinence;

injections at positions 10, 2, and 6 o'clock of the cross-sectional axis of the colon or rectum for the treatment of anal incontinence; or

injections at positions 10, 2, and 6 o'clock of the cross-sectional axis of the ureter for the treatment of vesicouretal reflux.

17. (Amended) The method according to claim 9, further comprising the inclusion of cells.

18. A prosthetic device for increasing the resistance of conduits comprising a urethra, a rectum, a colon, or a ureter
wherein said device is injectable and comprises a hydrogel as defined in any of claims 1 to 8.

19. (Amended) The device according to claim 18, further comprising cells.

20. (New) The hydrogel according to claim 1, comprising less than 10% by weight polyacrylamide, based on the total weight of the hydrogel.

21. (New) The hydrogel according to claim 1, comprising less than 7.5% by weight polyacrylamide, based on the total weight of the hydrogel.

22. (New) The hydrogel according to claim 1, comprising less than 5% by weight polyacrylamide, based on the total weight of the hydrogel.

23. (New) The hydrogel according to claim 1, comprising less than 3.5% by weight polyacrylamide, based on the total weight of the hydrogel.

24. (New) The hydrogel according to claim 1, comprising at least 1.5% by weight polyacrylamide, based on the total weight of the hydrogel.

25. (New) The hydrogel according to claim 1, comprising at least 1.6% by weight polyacrylamide, based on the total weight of the hydrogel.

26. (New) The hydrogel according to claim 1, having a complex viscosity of about 2 to 30 Pas.

27. (New) The hydrogel according to claim 1, having a complex viscosity of about 2 to 20 Pas.

28. (New) The biostable hydrogel composition of claim 42, wherein washing is done with pyrogen-free water.

29. (New) The method according to claim 9, wherein the hydrogel comprises less than 10% by weight polyacrylamide, based on the total weight of the hydrogel.

30. (New) The method according to claim 9, wherein the hydrogel comprises less than 7.5% by weight polyacrylamide, based on the total weight of the hydrogel.

31. (New) The method according to claim 9, wherein the hydrogel comprises less than 5% by weight polyacrylamide, based on the total weight of the hydrogel.

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32. (New) The method according to claim 9, wherein the hydrogel comprises less than 3.5% by weight polyacrylamide, based on the total weight of the hydrogel.

33. (New) The method according to claim 9, wherein the hydrogel comprises at least 1.5% by weight polyacrylamide, based on the total weight of the hydrogel.

34. (New) The method according to claim 9, wherein the hydrogel comprises at least 1.6% by weight polyacrylamide, based on the total weight of the hydrogel.

35. (New) The method according to claim 9, wherein the hydrogel has a complex viscosity of about 2 to 30 Pas.

36. (New) The method according to claim 9, wherein the hydrogel has a complex viscosity of about 2 to 20 Pas.

37. (New) The method according to claim 17, wherein the cells comprise stem cells.

38. (New) The method according to claim 17, wherein the cells allow for cellular engraftment to the surrounding tissue in the ureter, urethra or *analis canalis*.

39. (New) The device according to claim 19, wherein the cells include stem cells.

40. (New) The device according to claim 19, wherein the cells allow for cellular engraftment to the surrounding tissue in the ureter, urethra or *analis canalis*.

41. (New) The device according to claim 18, wherein the device increases the resistance of the urethra to treat urinary incontinence, increases the resistance of the rectum or colon to treat anal incontinence or increases the resistance of the ureter to treat vesicouretal reflux.

42. (New) The hydrogel according to claim 1 which is made under the conditions of radical initiation and washing with pyrogen-free water or saline solution.

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43. (New) The hydrogel according to claim 42 comprising at least 85% by weight pyrogen-free water or saline solution.

43. (New) The hydrogel according to claim 1 comprising at least 90% by weight pyrogen-free water or saline solution.

45. (New) The hydrogel according to claim 1 comprising at least 95% by weight pyrogen-free water or saline solution.

46. (New) The hydrogel according to claim 1, having a complex viscosity of about 2 to 50 Pas.

47. (New) The method according to claim 9, wherein the hydrogel has a complex viscosity of about 2 to 50 Pas.

Support for the amendments may be found throughout the application as originally filed, for instance on pages 5-6, and page 10, line 24 and in the claims as originally filed.

REMARKS

Claims 9-19 stand rejected under 35 U.S.C. §112 ¶ 1 as allegedly not being enabled. Claims 3-5, 7, 8, 11, 12, 14, 17, and 19 stand rejected under 35 U.S.C. §112 ¶ 2 as allegedly being indefinite. Claims 1-15, 18 and 19 stand rejected under 35 U.S.C. §103(a) as allegedly